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SRI P. PUNDARIKAKSHACHARYULU :—" Sir, the jurisdiction of the various other departments in the district is different from and not in tune with the revenue jurisdiction of the two districts. Will the Government consider the proposal to adjust the jurisdiction of the various other district officers so that they might be the same as or in tune with that of the Revenue department jurisdiction?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, the question was whether there was a proposal to amalgamate the two districts. Taking advantage of that question they are putting many other questions and I do not understand the import of them."

Enhancement of the pecuniary jurisdiction of District Munsifs' Courts.

* 282 *Q.*—SRI K. V. RAMESAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the Government have not notified the extension of the enhanced pecuniary jurisdiction of the district munsifs' courts in the State of Madras under the Madras Act XVI of 1951 [Madras Civil and Village Courts (Amendment) Act] ; and

(*b*) if not, when the Government propose to do it?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Act has not so far been brought into force because the bulk of the title litigation in this State consists of land suits. Suits for the declaration or partition of land are valued for jurisdiction on the basis of the market value of the land, while suits for possession in respect of the same land are valued on the basis of the land revenue payable in respect of it. Thus there is the anomaly that the valuation of the land in the former case would be at a higher amount than in the latter case. Also, the enhanced jurisdiction which the Act confers on District Munsifs will enable them to try suits for possession of landed properties of immense market value which they were never intended to try because the valuation of the land for purposes of such suits is linked up with the land revenue payable in respect of the land which has not appreciated with reference to market value. In order to rectify the above it is proposed to revise the basis of valuation of lands for purposes of court-fee. The matter is under the consideration of Government. It is the intention of the Government that the Act should be brought into force simultaneously with the revision referred to above."

SRI K. V. RAMESAM :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the value of immovable property has considerably gone up, even by four to five times, will the Government be pleased to notify the extension of the enhanced pecuniary jurisdiction of the District Munsif's Court as soon as possible?"

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THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" The Government are considering that, Sir."

SRI T. ANANTHA PAI :—" In view of the fact that considerable time has already lapsed since the passing of the Act, will the Government see that necessary action is taken without much delay? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" The Government are taking action without delay, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Have the Government called for the opinion of the High Court and is that responsible for any delay? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" The High Court also suggested that these two revisions may be done simultaneously."

* 283 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" Then hon. Member is not putting the question. So I will pass on to the next question."

Metalling of roads in Kasargod town.

* 284 *Q.*—JANAB M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have received any representation from the public that the metalling and tarring of roads in Kasargod town done recently was much inferior in quality than was proposed under the scheme therefor, and if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" A petition on the subject was received by the Chief Engineer (Highways). The Superintending Engineer (Highways) and the Divisional Engineer (Highways) personally investigated the matter and found that the representation was made without any foundation."

JANAB M. S. MOGRAL :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the road has become very bad in a very short period, will the Government also investigate the matter to find out the reason that led to this deterioration? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" The hon. Member says that the condition of the road is bad whereas the report I have received shows that the condition of the road is not bad but it is good."

SRI T. ANANTHA PAI :—" May I know whether any allegations were made against the contractor and whether they were investigated? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Sir, a complaint was made about the condition of this road. It was personally investigated by the Superintending Engineer and the Chief Engineer, Highways. The allegations were found to be false."